

**Report That Unless the Administration Authorizes
Him to Demand the Release of Imprisoned
Americans, a Consulate Will Be Vacant.
Tired of Our Imbecile Policy.**

FLOATING IN THE AIR.

New Aeroplanes Designed for the Imperial Russian Navy.

By its Means the Movements of Hostile Warships Can Be Seen from a Distance of 100 Miles.

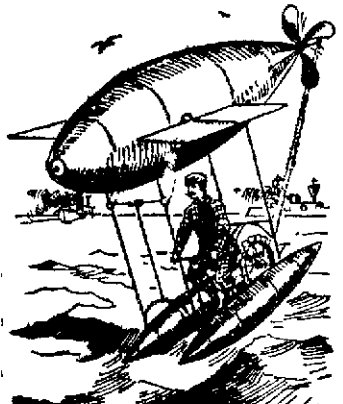
The aerial observation car, an ingenious device which has just been perfected by Paul Skobloff, a Russian naval expert, is destined to be of great service in marine warfare, as by its application the officers of one fleet can be apprized of the movements of the enemy by signals from the clouds, while the enemy will be ignorant of being watched.

This invention is to some extent a modification and a vast improvement upon the war balloon, yet it bears so little resemblance to the usually conceived idea of that machine that the observer might well be pardoned for mistaking it for anything except an airship. It is, in fact, a combination of all the practicable features of air craft constructed during the last quarter of a century, and, in addition, has a number of entirely new and novel features which give it a success heretofore unattained by any invention for aerial navigation.

With this car, says the New York Herald, the movements of hostile ships can be observed long before they come within the range of vision of anyone aboard ship, and high among the clouds the rider of this novel machine signals his fellows by means of colored flags just what the enemy is doing.

Stationed at Vladivostok, that lovely Russian naval station on the east shore of Siberia, M. Skobloff has during the last few years had ample time and opportunity to arrange and perfect his plans for a successful trip among the clouds. As a result of his thought and labor he has just completed the aerial observation car, and after having successfully tried a working model, a large one is now being constructed at Vladivostok, and it will in the early spring be placed in actual service on one of the Russian war ships of the Pacific squadron.

This peculiar contrivance, which enables the officers of a ship to learn



AERIAL OBSERVATION CAR.

the plans and movements of the enemy miles away, consists of three large cylinders, two of equal size and one smaller one, all of aluminum. The two large cylinders are cigar-shaped, and are held in place side by side and suspended from the larger cylinder, which is about 18 feet long and eight feet in diameter at the front, while the stern is somewhat smaller.

Projecting from each side of this main cylinder are two sheets of aluminum, which might be termed wings. They are seven feet long and three feet in width. At the stern of the cylinder there is fixed a large but light fan wheel or propeller, which, when in motion, acts in the air exactly as a ship's propeller does in the water, forcing the car onward through space.

Extending downward are four light but strong steel rods, to which are attached the two smaller cylinders, parallel with each other, but sufficiently far apart to allow for the working of the machinery of the car between them.

When it is known that an enemy's ship is in the vicinity, the services of the aerial observation car are called into requisition. The cylinders are partially filled with gas, which is carried for that purpose in a large storage tank on board the ship. The car is then lowered over the ship's side into the water, and the rider takes his seat upon the machine. The filling of the cylinders is then completed and the airship rises from the water like a huge sea bird.

High up in the air the rider has an unobstructed view over miles of water. No bullets can reach him, and with a powerful glass he can at his leisure locate the hostile ship or ships and by the signal code give the information to his own ship's officers, who are watching him through their marine glasses.

When it is desired to return to the ship the turning of a lever beneath the handle bar of the machine opens a set of valves in each of the three cylinders and allows as much or as little of the gas to escape as the rider may desire. Instead of sinking directly down now, as would an ordinary balloon when the gas is allowed to escape, this aerial car descends in a diagonal direction, being enabled to do so by the wings, aided by the propeller and wheel.

As not all the gas is exhausted from the cylinders, the car rides lightly over the top of the waves; at the same time the rider is clear of the water and in no danger of a wetting. The lead-lined cylinders maintain the machine in proper position, and the demonstrations by models have proved that quite rapid progress can be made with this car.

To Use the Revised Bible.

A movement is again on foot among a section of the clergy and laity of England to have the revised version of the Bible used in churches.

GREAT DRINK FIGHTER.

Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, President of the Canadian W. C. T. U.

Mrs. A. O. Rutherford, of Toronto, Ont., president of the Canadian Woman's Christian Temperance union, is one of the hardest workers in the cause of temperance and prohibition in North America. At present Mrs. Rutherford is busy completing arrangements for the next convention of the world's Women's Christian Temperance union, which is to be held in Toronto next fall. The date of the convention has not yet been decided upon, but it will probably be held in October. The dominion union is made up of the provincial unions, which are in turn divided into district unions, and these again into local unions. The dominion or national union is a member of the world's union,



MRS. A. O. RUTHERFORD.

which in its next convention will be entertained by the district union of Toronto. The meeting in Canada will be attended by Lady Henry Somerset and Miss Frances Willard. Representatives of the unions of France, Germany, England, China and other foreign countries will also be present. The convention is to be held under the direction of the Junior Christian Endeavor association. Mrs. Rutherford says that the work of the Canadian union differs but little in essentials from that of the union in the United States. The work is divided up among various departments, and the progress in its political aspect is especially gratifying. This progress will perhaps be best illustrated when it is said that four of the provinces to which a plebiscite vote was submitted gave a majority of 132,918 for prohibition. The national organization is now arming for the great battle to be fought when Premier Laurier redeems his promise to submit a plebiscite to the people of the dominion. Mr. Laurier has also promised to bring before the house legislation in line with the results of the popular vote. In the campaign to be made on these lines the union will summon to its aid the best scientific lecturers on temperance to be had in the realm. In view of the bright promises for national legislation on prohibition Mrs. Rutherford is happy. She hopes to have Canada well under way when the big convention meets in Toronto.

LARGEST EMPLOYER.

Gunmaker Krupp Gives Regular Work to 25,000 Men.

One may truly say that Herr Frederick Alfred Krupp, of Essen, Germany, is a most distinguished man. He is, says Frank Leslie's Weekly, the largest employer of labor in the world. On the pay rolls of the great Krupp establishment are more than 25,000 men. They are employed in making cannon and other munitions of war. Thirty-four governments have made purchases there, and this means that more than 25,000 guns of various sizes have been produced on mankind in the name of peace and civilization. Herr Krupp, the son and worthy successor of the great Krupp, is only 42 years old. He engages in the manufacture of implements to



FREDERICK ALFRED KRUPP.

kill men and destroy property. As an employer he manifests no such characteristics. His employees live in "model houses," have schools, baths, libraries, hospitals and pensions under his direction and cooperation. Philanthropy and the Golden Rule hold sway in war's greatest foundry. The present head of the establishment has been a member of the reichstag, but, like his sturdy father, has always refused to accept a title from the government. That of itself makes him distinguished. The development of the Krupp establishment has made war more costly and improbable every year. It is probable, therefore, that it has contributed more to peace than to war.

Monument to Chief Oshkosh.

The citizens of Oshkosh, Wis., have decided to erect a monument to Chief Oshkosh in North Side park. Oshkosh was the last of the Menominee sachems and played a prominent part in the pioneer history of the northwest. The settlement at the mouth of the upper Fox river, planted in 1836, had been called Sauksee Point and Stanley's Tavern, but in 1840 the settlers named it Oshkosh in honor of the chief.

No Poison in Antitoxin.

Prof. Behring asserts that pure antitoxin, without admixture, is absolutely free from poison, and that its effect is upon the pathogenic bacillus, which it destroys, and upon nothing else. The cases of complication and disease that have arisen are due to impurities in the serum, and as the preparation of the serum is improved they must disappear.



"Closed because of the death of the proprietor." It is a familiar sign, to be seen daily on the streets of every city in the country. It tells the old story of too much work, too much worry and too little care and thought for health. It isn't an easy thing for a healthy man to overwork himself. If a man will stop for just one minute every day and think of his health, and, when he finds that he feels a trifle out of sorts, will resort to the right remedy, he may work about as hard as he wishes without doing himself injury. On the contrary, if he neglects health and works on in spite of ill-health, he will awaken some day to find that the penalty is consumption, nervous exhaustion or prostration or some other dread disease. Even then it is not too late if the right remedy is used. The proper remedy is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It cures 98 per cent of all cases of consumption, catarrh, bronchitis and throat affections. "I was a sufferer for five or six years from indigestion, sore stomach, and constant headache," writes F. H. Roberts, of P. O. Box 173, Gaffney, S. C. "I tried several of our best physicians and found no permanent relief. For two years while under a treatment by a physician I ate nothing but Graham bread, but it didn't cure me. By the persuasion of a friend of mine, I commenced the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which gave me relief in a few days. Since then I have used five bottles. When I commenced I could not sleep; had a restless uneasy feeling all the time; skin was yellow and dry. Now I have good color, rest well at night, have a good appetite, can eat almost anything I wish to, and weigh 70 pounds. When the liver and bowels don't work, the body and brain won't. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are a sure, safe, speedy and permanent cure for constipation, and a torpid liver. One 'Pellet' is a gentle laxative and two a mild cathartic."

Good Substitute for Ivory.

A use has been found for the milk from which cream has been removed. It is strained and mixed with some ingredients, which are only known to the inventor, an Englishman, and then compressed. In three days the substance is as hard as celluloid and may be shaped in any way. For seven years the inventor has been trying to produce this material of a uniform shade and has only just succeeded. If coloring matter is introduced before it is hardened any desired color may be obtained. It forms a good substitute for ivory in the manufacture of billiard balls. For combs it is superior to celluloid, being less brittle and liable to chip. It has a creamy, glossy surface. It is expected that it will be especially used in the manufacture of buttons.

Underground Walnut Log.

M. S. Taylor, of Thornton, Whitman county, Ore., tells of a peculiar thing that came to light in his vicinity a short time ago. A neighbor was having a well dug, and at the depth of 98 feet a black walnut log about 20 inches in diameter was struck. The log was as sound as the day it was placed there, there not being a sign of decay. A piece of the wood about six feet long was brought to the surface and found to be of the finest quality, and cured to perfection. When the wood was removed from its position in the well a plentiful supply of water bubbled up.

DYEING AND FINE DRY CLEANING.

We will do dyeing and fine dry cleaning at reduced prices for the next thirty days. Now is the time to have your suits of clothes or overcoats dyed, cleaned and pressed by first-class, practical dyers and dry cleaners. You get the best work done in the city at Miller's Steam Dye House and Dry Cleaning Works, 145 North Main street.

Farm hands around Hoopston are being engaged for the season at from \$15 to \$18 a month. We seem to have passed the period of "a dollar a day, work of play."

A Valuable Prescription. Editor Morrison, of Worthington, Ind., Sun writes: "You have a valuable prescription in Electric Bitters, and I can cheerfully recommend it for constipation and Sick Headache, and as a general system tonic it has no equal." Mrs. Anna Stehle, 2623 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, was all run down and could not eat, nor digest food, had a headache which never left her and felt tired and weary, but six bottles of Electric Bitters restored her health and strength. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Get a bottle at West's drug store.

The people of Waukegan are agitating the subject of starting a public library, having a new gift of \$500 from the profits of a souvenir edition of the Republican issued by the women over a year ago.

Loss—A dear little child who made home happy by its smiles. And to think, it might have been saved had the parents only kept in the house One Minute Cough Cure, the infallible remedy for croup. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

S. W. Custer is buying walnut logs in the vicinity of Homer, and has already engaged 25,000 feet, to be shipped to the east.

Minutes seem like hours when a life is at stake. Croup gives no time to send for a doctor; delay may mean death. One Minute Cough Cure gives instant relief and insures recovery. The only harmless remedy that produces immediate results. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

Isaac Anderson, a pioneer of Iroquois county, died near Waukegan, Feb. 15, at the age of 83 years. He came to Illinois in 1833.

A weed in the garden can be easily destroyed when it first starts. Consumption can be nipped in the bud by One Minute Cough Cure. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

J. F. GIVEN, Manager.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24, MORRISON'S

Original Famous Scenic and Dramatic Production of

FAUST

With Its Wonderful Electric and Calcium Effects.

The Marvelous "Broken" Scene

With Genuine Flashes of Lightning and the Magic Rain of Fire.

Produced Here in Its Entirety—The Entire Production

Prices—25c, 50c, 75c and \$1.00. Reserved seats on sale at the Opera House Drug Store Monday morning.

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE

J. F. GIVEN, Manager.

CHAS. E. BLANEY'S

Big Farce-Comedy Success,

"A Baggage Check."

HEADED BY—

GRAPEWIN & EVANS, LIZZIE MELORE,

NETTIE BLACK, LOUIS MARTINETTI,

ECKERT AND HECK, And other well known artists.

NEW SONGS, NEW DANCES, NEW SPECIALTIES.

Brighter, Better Than Ever.

Prices—25c, 50c, and 75c. The sale of seats opens on Tuesday morning at the Opera House Drug Store.

Administratrix' Notice.

Estate of Robert G. Wells, Deceased. The undersigned having been appointed administratrix of the estate of Robert G. Wells, late of the county of Mason and state of Illinois, do hereby give notice that she will appear before the county court of Mason county, at the court house in Decatur, at the April term, on the first Monday in April next, at which time all persons having claims against said estate are notified and requested to attend for the purpose of having the same adjusted. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. Dated this 20th day of February, 1897. ALICE C. WELLS, Administratrix. Feb. 20-27

WABASH EXCURSIONS.

The Wabash Railroad will sell excursion tickets at greatly reduced rates to the following meetings:

On Feb. 23, March 29, April 6th and 20th, May 4th and 18th, settlers' one way tickets to points south at very low rates.

Winter tourist tickets are now on sale to the principal winter resorts in the South and Southeast.

Improved Dining Car Service on the Wabash. Meals will now be served A la Carte on all dining cars on the Wabash line. This will be a great accommodation to passengers as it will enable them to select from the bill of fare just what they want and pay only for what they get. Sunday low rate tickets will be sold from all stations east of Mississippi River, except to points north of Bement on Chicago Division, Sundays at very low rates—good going and returning Sunday only.

Home-seekers' excursion to principal points in the west, northwest, south and southwest on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, at one fare plus \$2.00 round trip. Tickets good returning every Tuesday and Friday within three weeks. Stop overs granted on going trip.

Springfield, Ill., account Illinois Farmers' Institute Meeting; one and one third fare round trip. Tickets sold Feb. 23 to 26th, inclusive; good returning till March 27th. For particulars giving full particulars of Mardi Gras call at city office.

Lincoln, Neb., account Biennial Conference, Seventh Day Adventists. Tickets sold Feb. 17, good returning only leaving Lincoln March 10th. One fare, plus \$2.00, for round trip. Tickets are on sale at one and one third fare on certificate plan, on Feb. 27th, 10th, 23rd and March 1st.

Account Mardi Gras March 2nd, tickets will be sold to New Orleans or Mobile at \$20.75 round trip. Tickets will be sold Feb. 23 to 26th, inclusive; good returning till March 27th. For particulars giving full particulars of Mardi Gras call at city office.

The Wabash "California Flyer." Quickest and best service to CALIFORNIA is now offered by the Wabash Railroad. In connection with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, a round sleeping car through to Los Angeles without change, making twenty-one hours better time from St. Louis than any other line, and corresponding time from other points. For full information regarding rates of sale, limits of tickets, rates, maps and descriptive advertising matter, write or apply to C. A. Pollock, manager, and ticket agent Wabash railroad, Decatur, Ill.

VANDALIA LINE EXCURSIONS.

The Vandalia-Pennsylvania direct line to Washington, D. C., reduced rates to the inauguration March 3, and 5. Leaves Decatur at 8 a. m., arrives at Washington 1:35 a. m.—only one night out—284 hours.

March 1st, New Orleans, March 1 and 2, 1897. Announcement of reduced rates on this occasion will be made in due season.

Tour of all Mexico via the Central route, under the auspices of the American Tourist Association, will leave Chicago Feb. 27, 1897. Tickets include all expenses, railway, sleeping and dining car fares, hotels, carriages, etc.

California via New Orleans. Pullman buffet sleeper every Tuesday and Saturday night from Chicago; omnibus with the Southern Pacific's "Sunset Limited" for Los Angeles and San Francisco. Pullman tourist sleeper every Wednesday, through without change from Chicago to San Francisco.

On the first and third Tuesdays of each month settlers' one way tickets to points south at very low rates.

Winter tourist tickets are now on sale to the principal winter resorts in the south and southeast.

Home-seekers' excursions to principal points in the west, northwest, south and southwest, on the first and third Tuesday of every month, at one fare plus \$2.00 round trip. Tickets good returning every Tuesday and Friday within three weeks. Stop overs granted on going trip.

To Indianapolis, Ind., on account Educational Association, Feb. 12, 13, 15.

Millington, T. P. A., or W. L. Smith, ticket agent, Union Depot, Decatur, Ill. Telephone 573.

R. H. OLIPHANT,

No. 325 East Main Street. New Quarters with a Best Barber Shop and Express Line Combined.

CHAS. PERKINS

Will Cut Hair for the Whisker Shave you for the When you want a Wagon, ring up and phone 48

Grand Opening and Sale of New Embroideries for 1897

Our Annual Sale of Embroideries Opens up Monday with the most beautiful stock of Embroideries ever shown in the City,

Embracing all the Newest and Choicest Patterns in

Hamburg Edgings and Insertions, Nanisook Edgings and Insertions, Swiss Edgings and Insertions, Cambric Sets, Nainsook Sets,

27 inch Flouncings, Cambric and Nainsook All-over Embroideries.

Bradley Bros
DECATUR, ILL.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL R. R.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Rolly Springs, FLORIDA

Route to

Through Sleeping Car daily from St. Louis to Jacksonville via Lilliole Central, and Birmingham, Ala., and Atlanta, Ga. Sleeping car service in connection therewith from Chicago and from Sioux City.

CALIFORNIA

—VIA— NEW ORLEANS.

Pullman Buffet Sleeper every Tuesday and Saturday night from Chicago, connecting with the Southern Pacific's "Sunset Limited" for Los Angeles and San Francisco. Pullman Tourist Sleeper every Wednesday, THRUOUT WITHOUT CHANGE from Chicago to San Francisco.

TOUR OF ALL MEXICO...

via the Central Route, under the auspices of the American Tourist Association, will leave Chicago JANUARY 19th, 1897, FEBRUARY 27th, 1897. Tickets include all expenses, Railway, Sleeping and Dining Car Fares, Hotels, Carriages, etc.

Mardi Gras at New Orleans

March 1st and 2d, 1897.

Announcement of reduced rates for this occasion will be made in due season, particulars of which can be learned of your home agent.

Home-seekers SOUTH

Excursions SOUTH

From January to May, 1897, inclusive, at One Fare for the Round Trip, plus \$2.00. To certain points South from stations west of Iowa Falls, Ia., inclusive, on the east and west of each month, east of Iowa Falls and north of Cairo, Ill., one day later, viz., 1st and 3d Tuesday. Home-seekers' tickets will also be sold from stations north of Cairo and east of Cedar Falls to points on Illinois Central west of Iowa Falls, and from all stations on the Central Route north of Cairo to certain points.

WEST AND SOUTHWEST

on the 1st and 3d Tuesday of each month.

Tickets and full information concerning all of the above can be had of agents of the Central Route and connecting lines.

A. H. HANSON, Gen'l Pass'r Agent, Chicago.

1879—ESTABLISHED—1870

Chilson's Steam

Dye House,

134 S. State St., Decatur, Ill.

Clean or Dye Every Description of Ladies' and Gents' Clothing.

Spring Style ...1897

JUST RECEIVED—

Knox Block for

In Black and Co

Men's New Style Fedo

Men's New Style Sti

Men's Pearl Fedo

Men's Cuban H

All the New Prevailing Sha

Agents for

Sigler's Stiff Ha

The Best \$3.00 Hat M

To Close out all of

Heavy Weight S

for Men and Boys

ONE-FOURTH O

25 Per Cent Discou

Ottenheim

The Progressive Clothiers

Telephone 182.

DAINTY D

That were labor

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Price

MOREHOUSE

WANT

YOUR

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Highest Market Pr

Lowest

W. R. Ab

JEW

Spring Styles— ...1897...

JUST RECEIVED—

Knox Block for the Season,
In Black and Colors.

Men's New Style Fedora.

Men's New Style Stiff Hats.

Men's Pearl Fedora, with Black Band.

Men's Cuban Hats.

All the New Prevailing Shades.

Agents for

Sigler's Stiff Hat,

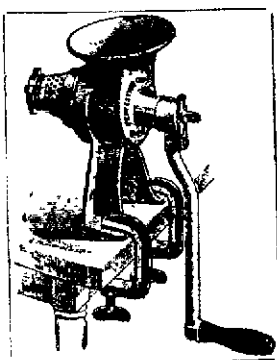
The Best \$3.00 Hat Made.

To Close out all of our
Heavy Weight Suits
for Men and BoysONE-FOURTH OFF,
25 Per Cent Discount.

Ottenheimer & Co.

The Progressive Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers.
Telephone 182. MASONIC TEMPLE

DAINTY DISHES

That were laborious or impossible to
prepare, become as easy to make as
hash if you have a

**NEW
PERFECTION
CUTTER.**

Price \$1.50.

MOREHOUSE & WELLS CO.,

WANTED...

YOUR OLD GOLD AND SILVER

Highest Market Price in Merchandise at
Lowest Cash Value.

W. R. Abbott & Co.,

JEWELERS.

PURE TEA.

Pride of the Orient.
CULTURED PROTECTED PLANT.
The Best in the World.

For Sale Only by

—THE LEADING GROCER—
...H. G. BOYER...

DECATUR, ILL.

LOCAL NEWS.

Some snow fell Saturday night, followed by rain Sunday morning.

Irwin's satisfaction tooth powder whitens and preserves the teeth.

The Grand Opera House cigars made by Johnny Weigand are the best in town. —Ottolitt

Tender roast beef with brown gravy served at noon daily at Singleton's restaurant. —Ottolitt

Little Diana cigar; business men's ideal smoke; 5 for 10 cents; 100 for \$1.50. L. Chodat's News House. —14-dtf

Fig syrup 85 cents a bottle at I. N. Irwin & Co.

Only Two Hours and Fifty Minutes to Peoria. Take the Vandalia Line. Train leaves at 11:42 a. m.

Are you going to the Mardi Gras at New Orleans? The Wabash railroad offers special rates. Tickets now on sale. —33-6c

Take the Vandalia fast train to Peoria, two hours and fifty minutes. Leaves at 11:42 a. m.

Decatur Steam Bakery bread and McKinney's St. Louis bread at the Economy. —17-dtf

Golden Rod Lotion for chapped hands gives satisfaction. For sale at Opera House Drug store.

One-way settlers' tickets are sold at greatly reduced rates to principal points in the south and southeast tomorrow, Feb. 23, '97.

Buy your garden, flower and field seeds of Dan Culp, the old reliable seedman fresh stock and all varieties of garden seed in bulk. No. 233 North Main street. Durtas & Culp. —1-d&wtf

According to the Lincoln Herald "the paved streets of Lincoln are in a horrid, filthy state. The alleys are abominable and cellars and outhouses nearly unbearable. Public health must suffer if there is not an immediate resort to cleanliness."

Encourage the Christian Endeavor Society by attending the Macy entertainment at the tabernacle Wednesday evening, Feb. 24. Admission, 25 cents.

On Friday night the members of the Knights of Pythias lodge at Orleans celebrated the Pythian anniversary in an appropriate manner. There was a banquet and a variety of games. Decatur Knights were present.

No better soft coal in this market than Lincoln or Riverton. Lincoln is the hardest of any coal within 100 miles of Decatur and the harder the coal the longer it will burn. Hard coal all sizes, always in stock at market price. Up town office, Irwin's drug store, office and yard 800 North Broadway, old phone 433, new phone 435. M. F. Metz. —21-dtf

The Wabash has placed an order for 8000 tons of steel rails, with an option for 20,000 tons at the low figure of \$17. It was stated at St. Louis Saturday that the price had advanced \$5 within the past forty-eight hours. The Illinois Steel company and the Carnegie mills are getting the bulk of the contracts.

To Stop a Cold in 30 Minutes. Take Contra-Cold Tablets, guaranteed or money refunded by all druggists, 20c.

Garden Seeds. Just received a large stock of all kinds of D. M. Ferry & Co.'s fresh bulk garden seeds, at the Spenser & Leberman Co.'s. —Jan 29-d&wtf

John F. Harner.

John F. Harner, aged 70 years, died Saturday at Taylorville at his home in that city. He has been a practical printer since 1845, and has been an editor and publisher. He became noted because of his efficiency in rule work, his original designs being reproduced in publications all over the country.

Beware of Quack Remedies for Catarrh That Contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the senses of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous membranes. Such articles should never be used except on prescription from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonial free.

Sold by Druggists, price 75c per bottle. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Good Bread

Is Never Wasted...
The Foundation is Good Flour.

HINKLE'S BEST... FLOUR

Will make Whiter and Better Bread than any flour made. Try one sack. Ask your groceryman for it, or call up 550 and we will see that you get a sack of the best quick.

HINKLE'S BEST. PHONE NOS. 550.

OUT OF TOWN ECHOES

Observations and Notes by a Reporter on His Rounds

IN SOME MACON COUNTY TOWNS.

Corn Incident at Lake City in 1895 Recalled—Comrade Burt and Major McKinley in Battle—Sorrow at Blue Mound Caused by a Stranger.

The past week has been a trying ordeal to business men. The country roads have been masses of soft, sticky mud over which locomotion was all but impossible. As a consequence grain dealers have had nothing to do, and the village merchants have had ample time to take account of stock and prepare for the spring rush.

On the Veech farm which adjoins the little village of Sangamon, 35,000 bushels of corn is stored waiting for a higher market. Several thousand bushels could have been disposed of at one time for 50 cents per bushel.

Speaking of 50-cent corn reminds the writer of a funny little incident which came under his notice while visiting Lake City in the summer of 1895. The reporter was standing on the platform in front of Solder's store when a grizzled old farmer made his appearance driving along the dusty street, after a melancholy old white horse, which seemed to have lost all interest in life. The driver, too, seemed to be in the depths of profound misery. His wrinkled face was clouded with care and his whole appearance suggested that some terrible, unforeseen and crushing had fortune had tumbled down in the old man's immediate neighborhood. He drew up in front of the platform, attached the melancholy steed to a post and found a seat on the platform where his air of general dejection attracted the attention of the genial proprietor of the store.

"Why, what is the matter, Uncle Ben; anybody sick at your place?" said the merchant. "Naw," replied the dejected farmer, with a sigh which rattled the loose boards in the platform welled up from the depths of his being. "All my folks are well, but it does seem that I'm always havin' the dumbest luck. I've got about 8000 bushels of corn out on my farm and this mornin' when I got up there was my biggest crib busted all to flinders, and the corn runnin' all over the ground. I reckon there's a good 5000 bushels of it. It can't be picked up and I've just got to sell it, when corn is just certain to be a good price a week from now. You can't tell when a big rain will come on now-a-days. It just seems sometimes that everything is agin a man and I'm that discouraged that I feel just like goin' off somewhere and dyin'."

Another sigh that sounded like the exhaust of a traction engine, and the old man gained his feet, hobbled over to the grain office, and closed a contract for 5000 bushels of corn, more or less to be delivered at once at 50 cents per bushel. Unless the aged agriculturist got a decided motion on himself corn was not selling for 50 cents when the last load reached the dealer.

Mr. L. Burt, who lives on one of the best farms in the Elwin neighborhood, tells a good story concerning the present-day which came under his observation at the second battle of Bull Run. The union forces were having a tough time of it. The rebels were pressing their opponents who were stubbornly defending their position and holding their own. For some reason officers were scarce along the union line, and the men were fighting it out on their own account. A young, boyish officer seemed the most conspicuous figure to Mr. Burt and with youthful enthusiasm hurried to and fro along the line exhorting the men to stand firm and now and then issuing some needed order. By and by a general officer rode up to the line and looked over the situation. It evidently was not to his liking for with an oath, which sounded above the roar of battle, he rode over to the young captain and inquired whether the men could hold the position until reinforcements could be hurried to the point. "Hold the position!" replied the boyish commander, "of course we can hold it, and drive the enemy to, if we can only rally our officers." Mr. Burt states there was an explosion about that time. The general swore with an energy which was a little remarkable in a place where there were many masters of the profane art, and at once set off down the line. In a few moments captains, lieutenants and colonels made their appearance from somewhere, the men braced themselves for work, the lines moved forward and the enemy was routed. The young officer who had attracted Mr. Burt's attention was Wm. McKinley, now president elect of the United States.

The village of Blue Mound is easily one of the most progressive towns in this section but Messrs. Mitchell & Ferguson, the leading grocers are sad at heart and refuse to be comforted. Not many months ago a gentleman of pleasing appearance and plib tongue succeeded in separating the firm and a goodly amount of cash in return for a patent slot machine warranted to double the cigar trade and pour unlimited wealth into the coffers of the two

merchants. The machine was installed in place and the village boys freely offered their small change at the new shrine. All went well until a man from Decatur appeared on the scene. He snatched a wicked smile as he gently dropped a five-cent piece into the wheel and the depraved machine began its fateful whirl. When the indicator did its fatal work, the firm collectively and individually held up its hands in horror and a goodly portion of the box of choicest cigars was passed into the keeping of the man from Decatur. Again and again the Decaturite returned to the charge and again and again the story was repeated. The box was depleted and Mitchell smiled a sad, far away smile as he glanced at the machine, and defaced the label on the useless and empty receptacle, so lately filled with choicest specimens of the cigar maker's art.

The rumors which have been heard lately regarding the condition of winter wheat in Macon county prove unfounded. In many localities farmers pronounce the outlook encouraging and predict a good crop from present appearances.

THE LAST SAD RITES.

Funeral of the Late Mrs. Ophelia W. Peddecord—Burial at Greenwood.

Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock the funeral of the late Mrs. Ophelia W. Peddecord, wife of Hon. J. J. Peddecord, and sister of ex-Governor R. J. Oglesby, took place from the family residence on Franklin street in the presence of a large number of neighbors and friends. Despite the inclemency of the weather, many elderly people were in attendance and representatives were present from nearly all of the older families of the city. Ex-Governor and Mrs. Oglesby, Mrs. O. H. Oglesby, Mrs. Felicity Oglesby, Mrs. O. H. Oglesby, Mrs. Snyder of Kansas City, Mo., Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Rurde of Ft. Wayne, Ind., and George M. Pullman, jr., of Chicago, were present from out of the city. The services were quite impressive. They were in charge of Rev. W. F. Gilmore, pastor of Grace M. E. church, of which the deceased had long been a member. The music was by Mrs. A. W. Conklin, Miss Maude Burrows, D. L. Bunn and Bert Gher. The selections were "Asleep in Jesus," "Abide with Me," and "Some Sweet Day." The choir sang "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," while the casket was being removed to the hearse and the relatives and friends were entering the carriages. Many beautiful floral tributes rested upon and about the casket, tokens of love and sympathy.

Rev. Mr. Gilmore read a scriptural lesson and offered prayer. The funeral address dealt with the home and Christian life of Mrs. Peddecord, who was born in Kentucky seventy-seven years ago, and who had lived in Decatur since 1896. Since her girlhood she had been a mother to her brother (Mr. Oglesby) and in her husband and her home she had been faithful and true. She had witnessed many changes in the nation and community in her long life of usefulness and her life and character had been one of transparent purity. She has gone to her reward in the eternal city where she is waiting for those whom she loved and who loved her to come and be with her forever.

The interment was in Greenwood cemetery. The pall bearers were John Ulrich, D. S. Shellabarger, Senator Kanan, W. C. Johns, B. O. McReynolds and P. H. Brueck. At Rest.

The funeral of the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Addis took place Sunday afternoon from the family residence on South Water street in the presence of a large number of friends. There were many beautiful floral tributes. Rev. D. F. Howe, pastor of the First M. E. church, officiated, and delivered a touching funeral discourse. Milton Johnson, jr., Bert Gher, Miss Irene Sykes and Mrs. Gher comprised the choir. They sang "Asleep in Jesus," "Rest, Little Sleeper," and "In the Morning of the Dawning." The burial was at Greenwood cemetery.

Cyclist Gossip. The stories circulated that a portion of the membership of the L. A. W. in the south and west would secede because the assembly refused to sanction Sunday racing, has been grossly exaggerated. The L. A. W. in that district cannot afford to secede from the major organization and it will not do so. The racing board would simply blacklist every rider and track and the rebellion would end in short order.

Whether many of the manufacturers will hire racing teams this year or not is a question which is causing much comment at present. Several of the makers are tinkering with the subject but they are rather deliberate about making up their minds and the "pros" are getting nervous. While referring to the hiring of teams it might refresh the memories of some veterans to inform them that Jack Prince was the first racing man in this country who received a salary for riding a certain make of wheel. Prince received the handsome remuneration of \$15 a week and he paid his own expenses.

Reception Friday Night. The members of Decatur Camp No. 144, Modern Woodman of America, will give a reception and entertainment in their new rooms at Knights of Pythias Castle hall in Powers' block on Friday evening, Feb. 26. The occasion will be one of special pleasure and those invited will be sure to have a cordial welcome and a good time.

Seed Distribution. New seed store, complete stock, fresh garden, field and flower seeds. Leon & Morris, 138 East Wood street. —9-d&wtf

At The Grand.

"Faust," which is to be produced Wednesday night, Feb. 24, a musical novelty has been perfected for heightening the effect of the church scene, a chime of sweet toned bells ring out full and clear while the worshippers assemble as the lingering echoes of the bells die softly away, the voices of the singers announce the opening of the services within the sacred edifice. Appropriate orchestral music forms a fitting accompaniment to several of the scenes. The musical selections given with the action of the play comprise gems from Gounod's "Faust," and excerpts from the compositions of Rossini, Meyerbeer and other great composers. Aids to the elaborate staging of "Faust," the drama is rendered in the highest degree interesting by the company.

Why It Is Called "A Baggage Check."

A witless but wealthy young man loses a baggage check for a valise which contains, etc., establishing his rights to a steam laundry. A tramp finds it and sells it to Isa Conboy, a jolly but not altogether honest old man, who gets possession of valise and papers and runs said laundry to the best of his ability, which is very bad. Second act shows the steam laundry in full operation, with said wealthy young man only as an employee. One can imagine the very funny situations that can be drawn from this scene. A further explanation might detract your interest in the plot of the piece through the entire play. "A Baggage Check" will be at Powers' Grand Thursday, February 25.

A New Departure.

The Linn & Scruggs Dry Goods and Carpet company have added a new department which is certain to be well patronized by the mothers of Decatur and central Illinois. It is constantly becoming more the custom for mothers to purchase the clothing for the children of the family.

Realizing this fact the big store has placed on sale a large and well selected stock of boys' clothing.

Now the mother can purchase her boy's clothing at the same place where she buys her own furnishings.

Another important thing which will interest mothers of an economical turn of mind is the fact that the prices will be about 25 per cent less than those asked by exclusive clothing.

No extra heat, light, or rental is required for this new venture and hence profits can and will be cut to a minimum.

To introduce this new department the big store offers for this week:

Separate pants in Wool mixed chevrons for boys from 4 to 14 years of age at 19 cents per pair. Strong, well made "Never Rip" corduroy pants for boys from 5 to 14 years old, 49 cents pair. They also have a well assorted stock of boys' complete suits ranging in price from .69 cents to \$3.08 suit. All the larger dry goods stores carry this line of goods and there will doubtless be many mothers who will welcome this department.

On a Tour of Inspection.

Saturday afternoon C. B. Parsons, an engineering expert from New York, Chief Engineer Wilson of the C., E. & D., and Superintendent G. W. Graves and Roadmaster McKewen of the I., D. & W., were in Decatur to inspect the property of the Indianapolis, Decatur and Western railway at this point. All of the visitors were guests of Agent Harwood while in the city. They occupied a box at the Brownie show Saturday night with Mr. Harwood.

Bread, Bread, Bread.

We are now making the finest and best bread in the city, notwithstanding the Second Day Bread from St. Louis, that is being sold by some grocers at 5c per loaf straight for 16 ounces. Our bread for sale at all grocery stores that handle bread, 3 1/2 ounce loaves for 10c, or 24 ounces for 5c, and fresh. Take your choice and be convinced.

The Decatur Cracker Co.

A Sneak Thief.

The residents of East Bradford street complain of a sneak thief who has been robbing them lately. The thief seems to be carrying on a systematic robbery. Almost nightly the cellar of one of the houses on Bradford street has been entered and canned goods and vegetables stolen. Several of the coal sheds have also been robbed. The people who have suffered have been on the lookout but have yet been unable to catch the thief.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER.

MOST PERFECT MADE: A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 Years the Standard.

Daily Republican

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By mail, postage paid, one year, \$3.00.
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Per week, 10 cents; Yearly, in advance, \$3.00.
Postcard requests, or orders through telephone No. 42, will secure early attention of carriers in any district.
Address THE EVENING REPUBLICAN, 126 South Water street, Decatur, Illinois.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1897.

Prorating Delegates.

Why would it not be a good thing for the Republican township central committee to adopt the plan at the coming primaries and convention of prorating the delegates to the convention, according to the vote received, by the candidate. Two plans have been tried neither of which is exactly satisfactory. These plans are: First, that the candidate before the primaries receiving the highest number of votes in the precinct whether that number is a plurality or a majority gets the entire vote of the delegation. In the convention from that precinct; second, that the candidate receiving a majority or a plurality of the total vote cast in all the precincts gets the nomination without the action of the convention.

The first plan is less objectionable than the second for the reason that it preserves the identity of the precincts and the convention while the second plan in effect does away with the identity of both the precinct and the convention.

The objections to the first plan are about as follows: When more than two candidates are before the primaries for the same office one of the candidates is likely to get all the delegates when he has not come near carrying the precinct. For example: A B C and D are candidates for the same office and A gets 40 votes, B 49 votes, C 48 votes, and D 47 votes. A gets all the delegates while he only received 50 votes to 144 cast against him. This possibility always offers inducements to tricksters to multiply candidates in order to run a weak man, of their own choosing in on a plurality. While this is true B might get the advantage in some other precinct and C in another. In this way this objection is partially remedied by preserving the precinct identity.

The objections to the second plan are that a single precinct by unfair means might decide the fate of the ticket as the precinct identity is destroyed and the convention is left without power to correct any fraud that might be committed in a precinct. Then again in a worse form there arises the objection that in case of a multitude of candidates there is danger of an exceedingly weak man being nominated by a plurality far below a majority by working a little crookedness in a single precinct.

There are a few, only, of the more essential objections to these plans. The prorating of delegates obviates all these objections, because, to the first plan, pointed out in this article, is added the carrying along up to the convention the popular vote giving every candidate delegates in proportion to the votes cast for him at the primary.

Here is an example of how this plan would work: Suppose, again, A, B, C and D, are candidates for the same office before the primaries where the precinct has 8 delegates and 250 votes are cast for the candidates for that office, and that of this number A gets 125 votes, B 75 votes, C 35 votes and D 15 votes. The first thing, after the votes were counted, the judges and clerks would do would be to find how many votes were necessary to entitle a candidate to a delegate. This would be done by dividing 350, the total number of votes, by the number of delegates. The quotient would be 31 2/3 the number of votes necessary to secure a delegate. But to make it as near equal as possible there should be a delegate half-vote as will appear from the following computation, which is about as difficult a combination as could be suggested: By dividing these respective votes for candidates by 31 2/3 A would get 4 delegates, B 2 1/2 delegates, C 1 delegate and D 1/2 delegate or stated more properly that delegation of 8, would thus cast its vote in the convention.

This, as before stated, gives every candidate in the convention an expression of the votes he got at the primary, provided he received enough in any precinct to count or entitle him to any vote in the convention. This plan is as fair and equitable as it is possible to make it and leaves no inducement open to multiply candidates to carry precincts by pluralities, or, upon the general plurality plan, to "whoop it up" in some one precinct to force a plurality.

This plan also makes a convention a body of some dignity with the people's business in hand and could not fail to give satisfaction to everybody who is willing to take his chances for a nomination in a fair deal with the people, and it might justly be added that a candidate who cannot stand a fair deal should never be honored by a place on the ticket of any party.

How the Senate Will Stand.

The Chicago Tribune: The re-election of James H. Kyle to the United States senate from South Dakota determines the complexion of that body as it will appear when the Republican party comes into power March 4. It will be composed of the following elements:

Republicans..... 42
Democrats..... 1
Independents..... 1
Total..... 44
Never in the history of the nation has the deliberation of parties been so uncertain as will be exemplified by the senate to be organized at the beginning of the administration of President McKinley. No party has a control in the upper branch of the national legislature, and although the Republicans predominate in degree they are short of a majority, even after counting the free silver senators like Wolcott, Hansbrough, and Carter, who are true to the party, while differing with it on the most important political issue of the day.

There are also several "regular" Democrats who will not vote with their party on this question, and the subdivisions of party affiliations, if followed through the mazes of monetary and tariff issues, would be so uncertain that they would be of doubtful value.

The blue book of the German Reichstag is not more interesting than a census of the senate of the United States as it will appear at the beginning of the next administration. There must be an amalgamation of divergent factions to secure control, more or less nominal, of that body. The natural divisions, in their primary formation, will be as follows:

Republicans—42.
Alrick, Hale, Foster, Quay, Allison, Hansbrough, Pettibone, Burrows, Hoar, Spooner, Sherman (for his successor), Chandler, Lodge, McMillan, Shoup, Clark, McKim, Mason, Thurston, Cullem, Morrill, Warren, Davis, Nelson, Wetmore, Fairbanks, Perkins, Platt (Conn.), Platt (N. Y.), Wolcott, Frye, Foraker, Callenger, Prichard, Willington, Gear.

Democrats—33.
Bacon, Gorman, Murphy, Bates, Harris, Vassar, Berry, [Tenn.] Pettus, Jones, [Ark.] Hawley, Kenney, Lodge, Smith, Clay, Lindsay, Tamm, Chilton, Martin, Turpie, Daniel, McNary, Vest, Earle, Mitchell, [Wis.] Whitehall, George, Morgan, White.

Populists—7.
Allen, Hefelford, Stewart, Butler, Jones, [Nev.] Turner, Harris, [Kas.] Pettigrew, Teller, Cannon, Mantle, Independent—1.
Kyle.

Vacancies—3.
Kentucky (a Republican).
Oregon (a Republican).
Florida (a Democrat).

In the above table silver Republicans like Wolcott, Clark, and Carter, who act with the party on all subjects other than the money question, and who are members in good standing of the Republican senatorial caucus, are counted as straight Republicans, just as sound money Democrats like Caffery and Gray are classed as straight Democrats, and these may be counted upon to vote as Republicans or Democrats except on the raising of this one issue, when there would be a nearly equal shifting of party lines.

The senate now—and normally—consists of 96 members. There is little doubt that only 88, and possibly only 87, senators will be in their seats March 5. Vacancies will exist March 4 in Kentucky, Florida, and Oregon. Those in Kentucky and Oregon will be filled eventually by Republicans, in all probability, and in Florida Senator Call's successor, a Democrat, will be chosen in April. The governor may fill the latter vacancy, however, promptly on March 4 by appointment.

It would appear to be a reasonable supposition that the Republicans in the senate will have 44 votes on organization at least, counting the 3 "straight" Republicans, Kyle, the "independent," and the Republican who may come from Kentucky. There remains a single vote to be obtained, and it is likely that this will be that of Jones of Nevada or Lee Mantle of Montana, who has shown a disposition to creep back into the fold to the side of his colleague, Senator Carter.

The Democrats, in order to get a majority, must needs corral all of the Populists and all of the independent silver Republicans. The advantage clearly rests with the Republicans.

The congress of mothers held in Washington is the most important congress or assembly yet held by woman. There is no question to which American women can address themselves with so much promise of benefit to this and future generations. It is better far than all the parings of the Helen Gougars of our land about reforms which they do not expect to accomplish but which are used as a means of bringing them before the people in the role for which nature has endowed them, namely, as agitators, generally on the wrong side of every question. The country will hail the mother's congress as a move in the right direction and a great relief.

The people should never forget that it is as important to have good men nominated and elected as it is to have a good mayor. No matter how good a man a mayor may be if he has a poor council behind him he can do nothing.

Nevada has gone into the prize fight business and would probably go into the lottery business also, but she cannot make arrangements, such as she might desire, with the United States mail services.

Major McKinley has again fully recovered his health but it is given out that he cannot receive visitors except in very special cases.

It is reported that 400 Texas Populists are about to remove in a body to Mexico. They should remember "There'll be no Bryan there."

MUSIC A LA GOLF.

It Gives a Freshness and Variety to Criticism.

In these days, when golf is crowding in popularity every other form of outdoor sport, it is also—in England, at least—giving a freshness and variety to musical criticism which will be appreciated by the lay mind that is not educated up to a knowledge of the technical terms usually employed in describing musical events. Here is a report, taken from a recent London paper, of a classical concert at St. James' hall:

"An enormous crowd assembled Monday night to witness the foursome competition over the St. James' hall links. Punctually at eight o'clock Dr. Joachim drove off from the tee, signor Piatti responding with a lovely low shot, which left Mr. Gibson within easy reach of the green with his brassie. Mr. Ries foisted the second subject and Dr. Joachim was badly bunkered, but using his niblick on the G string in masterly style laid his ball dead, and the first movement was halved amid great enthusiasm.

"Starting one up at the scherzo, Signor Piatti began the second movement, and outdrove Dr. Joachim by at least 20 bars. Mr. Gibson approached cleverly, and in the trio there was nothing to choose between the opponents, the coda (con sordini) resulting in another half. Mr. Gibson and Signor Piatti were now dumpy, but the latter, being obliged to play pawky round a dangerous pizicato passage, lost a good deal of ground, as Dr. Joachim's drive and Mr. Ries' second were both long and straight."

A MAN OF CONSCIENCE.

Wouldn't Imperil a Sinless Life by a Power of Attorney.

"I have run across curious people of many sorts," said the observant Jerseyman the other day, reports the New York Sun, "but I had an experience with a person recently who seemed to me the strangest of all. I was engaged in settling up an estate in which there was likely to be litigation, and I had concluded to get powers of attorney from as many of the heirs at law as possible in order to save expense and expedite matters. I came to New York to see one of the heirs, and found him a grave and able business man. When I explained the situation he readily agreed that the course I intended to pursue was the best, and promised to assist me in it.

"Then," said I, "I suppose you will sign this power of attorney," and I laid the paper before him. "No," he answered, decidedly. "And why not?"

"Upon religious grounds," he said. "For many years I have been endeavoring to live a life that should be free from mortal sin, and so far I believe I have escaped any act that is beyond forgiveness; but I could not think of putting my name to a paper which authorized anyone to act in my name, for fear that the person might do some act which my conscience could not approve, and which being done in my name would everlastingly condemn me. I cannot give you or anyone else a power of attorney."

A BODYGUARD OF TARPON.

The Sportsman Thinks Perhaps His Captive Was the Head of a Family.

A Sportsman's Review writer tells how he landed a large tarpon on the Gulf of Mexico:

"We came to our anchorage, and in half an hour had a strike. The sulky brute would not jump, but when ironed would just show his head and blow and then dive down into deep water again. Exhausted by a previous fight with a tarpon, I could not fight him so hard, and it was 50 minutes before he gave up.

"He jumped only twice; but a remarkable incident happened during the struggle. While the tarpon I had on was sluggish, he seemed to create intense excitement among all the others in the bay. They were leaping and cavorting around the captive and the boat as if they intended a rescue. At one time, when we were being towed at a great rate down the channel, 12 or 13 of them formed in almost a perfect line of four behind us, following and leaping into the air as they came. 'We are leading the grand march, Dave,' the guide said, and I think from the remarkable way in which the fish acted we must have captured the head of the family."

HALF PRICE ON PLASTERS.

West's Drug Store.

Alcock's Plasters.....2 for 25c
Belladonna Plasters.....2 for 25c
Strengthening Plasters.....2 for 25c

WE FIND

Our Stock Too Large

For the season. Will name prices that will make them go this week, rain or shine.

Will close all of our Embroideries below cost—from one cent a yard up.

Will cut the prices on all of our new and beautiful Laces, just out of the custom house.

Large lines of New Lace Collars and Ruchings, the short back kind.

Also New Veilings, finest line we have ever shown.

All go in this sale at CUT PRICES. Don't miss this opportunity.

S. G. HATCH & BRO.

151 EAST MAIN ST.

RUSSELL SAGE TALKS.

Eminent Financier Discusses Woman's Business Limitations.

In certain spheres woman is preeminent. No man could make a home as woman makes it, for the reason that he lacks the homemaking instinct. He has not the delicacy of mind, nor the tact, nor that tireless patience in dealing endlessly with little things. But, says Russell Sage, the famous New York financier, in Demorest's Monthly Magazine, as women are preeminent in certain spheres, so are men preeminent in others. I think, for example, that it will be a long time before there are women financiers of wide influence and power. The reason is that the financier deals exclusively with masculine forces. He must know men and must handle them. In the keen rivalry



RUSSELL SAGE.

and competition of business every intellectual power he possesses is brought into play. He must meet and outstrip men on their own ground. He must keep his finger, moreover, on the pulse of the world. He must take daily note of the complex ebb and flow of trade, and of the large improvements and enterprises in all parts of the world. He must understand the policy of governments, and must calculate to a nicety the exact effect upon commerce of every public happening. To succeed in these manifold endeavors he must, first of all, know men, and the motives which actuate them, in a way that is beyond the reach, because of the sex difference, of even the cleverest women. Woman lacks both the psychological nature and the physical equipment for large financial dealing. All of her woman's instincts would interfere with her success. Of course, I know that there are many women who have been successful in business in a small way, and I am glad of it. I like to see everybody have the opportunity to do what they can do. No obstacle should be put in the way of women in the business world. They should be treated with all the deference which is due their sex. I don't believe there is any question of this in the mind of any true man; at the same time, there cannot be in a business office that elaborate courtesy which prevails in the drawing-room. I think, moreover, that it is rather an excess of courtesy on the part of a third business man to give an apparently strong woman a seat in a car.

DEVIL'S CORKSCREWS.

Fossil Freaks of Nature Which Science Is Unable to Explain.

The geologists who have been in convention in Washington were interested to the point of excitement in certain gigantic fossils fetched from Nebraska by Prof. E. H. Barbour. There are lots of them in that state, where they are popularly known as "devil's corkscrews."

In Sioux county they may be seen projecting from the sides of cliffs. In the aggregate there are millions of them. Scientists are puzzled to know what the strange things are—whether they should be referred to the animal, the vegetable, or the mineral kingdom. These freaks are otherwise known as "fossil twisters." They are of enormous size, sometimes measuring 40 feet, but the most remarkable thing about them is the symmetry of their structure, which is absolutely mathematical. As weathered out from the cliffs they are always perpendicular.

What are they? As to this there are several theories. Some think they are fossil gopher holes—the underground homes of rodents related to modern gophers, which lived perhaps a couple of million years ago. Another theory is that geysers made them, another that lightning caused them, but Prof. Barbour is certain that they are fossil plants, and that they grew, great forests of them, in water ages and ages ago.



DEVIL'S CORKSCREWS.

Turned Up Just in Time. An aged and penniless woman who was about to be dispossessed of her lodgings at Atlanta, Ga., applied for aid to the sergeant at the police station and told him that she had not seen her sons for years, and that since her husband had died life had been hard for her. Just then a strange man came and asked for the sergeant. Before stating his errand he looked at the woman a moment and then clasped her in his arms. It was the holiday season, and her son had come home to look for her.

LINN AND SCRUGGS

DRY GOODS & CARPET CO.
THE BIG STORE WATER, MAIN & STATE STREETS

The Second Week of that Great
Muslin Underwear Sale.

Judging from the amount of dainty lingerie which left this store during the past week we must conclude that prices and styles were exceptionally satisfactory. This week we offer still greater attractions. It's the last week of this

SPECIAL SELLING,
and our prices will convince you that it is time wasted to make your own Undermuslins.

We also have a lot of goods soiled and mussed from showing last week—these will go at about 20 per cent. less than their original low prices.

New Hats!
FOR SPRING.

Just Received.

See the New
CUBAN FLAT,
The Latest.

NEW LINE OF—
SPRING
SHIRTS.

B. STINE
CLOTHING CO.,

245-249 NORTH WATER ST.

NEXT TO BRADLEY BROS.

Masks, Whiskers,
Mustaches, Noses,
DOMINOES,
CREPE PAPER, BELLS.

J. E. SAXTON'S BOOK STORE,
120 EAST PRAIRIE STREET.

J. B. Bullard,
FUNERAL
DIRECTOR.

SYNDICATE BLOCK, NORTH MAIN ST.,
Where everything pertaining to the funeral business is furnished and attended to in the highest style of art. Calls day or night will receive prompt attention. In connection a receiving vault. Residence 252 West William street. Residence Telephone 126. Office, 126.

RACE CLOTHING

Grand Opening
Spring Sale

Stetson and
Monday, Feb. 22

CORRECT
SHAPES

If you wear a
MILLER OR STETSON
YOU ARE RIGHT.

COLORS—

BLACK, BROWN,
and PECAN...

Few more of the—

...DRESS S

35c, or

COME AND C

Race Clothing

129 North W.

Special Sale

Savings B

Corner Water and

COMMENCING

Dress Goods

2500 yds. of Worsted Plaids for

2500 " Light Calico, very

3000 " Apron Gingham at

3500 " Indigo Blue Calico

1500 " Henrietta Cashmere

at 16c yd.

5 dozen Ladies' Wrappers at 4

5 dozen Ladies' Wrappers at 6

Clothing D

3 dozen Men's Black Cheviot Suits, price

3 dozen Men's Fancy All Wool Suits, price

6 dozen Men's All Wool Pants, all colors

this sale.....

4 dozen Heavy Cottonade Pants, price

5 dozen Men's fine Outing Flannel Night

5 dozen Men's Muslin Gowns, fancy box

25 dozen Men's Outing Flannel Overalls

Shoe Dep

We just received a new line of Men's

will sell for this sale at a Great Bargain

36 pair Ladies' Dongola Button Shoe, price

36 pair Boys' Fine Calf Skin Shoe, price

36 pair Child's Shoes at.....

72 pair Men's Fine Calf Skin Shoe, price

72 pair Ladies' Rubbers at.....

Cloak D

48 Black, Fine Jackets, ready to wear

choice for this sale.....

Thousands of other articles at a GREAT

Remember the Place—

corner North Water and

YOURS RE

SAVINGS

SCRUGGS

WOODS & CARPET CO.

Second Week of that Great

Underwear Sale.

The amount of dainty lingerie which left the past week we must conclude that were exceptionally satisfactory. This still greater attractions. It's the last

SPECIAL SELLING,

will convince you that it is time wasted own Undermuslins.

of goods soiled and muslined from showing last at about 20 per cent. less than their original

W Hats!

SPRING.

Just Received.

The New

BAN FLAT,

The Latest.

LINE OF—

RING

SHIRTS.

B. STINE

THING CO.,

45-249 NORTH WATER ST.

BRADLEY BROS.

ks, Whiskers,

ustaches, Noses,

DOMINOES,

E PAPER, BELLS.

XTON'S BOOK STORE,

o EAST PRAIRIE STREET.

ullard,

FUNERAL

DIRECTOR.

ICATE BLOCK, NORTH MAIN ST.

aining to the funeral business is furnished and attended to in the highest or night will receive prompt attention in connection a receiving hall

RACE CLOTHING MFG. Co.

Grand Opening

Spring Styles

Stetson and Miller Hats

Monday, Feb. 15th, 1897.

CORRECT

SHAPES

If you wear a
MILLER OR STETSON
YOU ARE RIGHT.

COLORS

BLACK, BROWN,
and PECAN....

Few more of the—

...DRESS SHIRTS...

35c, or three for \$1.00 left.

COME AND GET THEM.

Race Clothing M'fg Co.,

129 North Water Street.

Special Sale for 10 Days

—AT—

Savings Bank Store,

Corner Water and Park Streets,

COMMENCING FEB. 18.

Dress Goods Department.

2500 yds. of Worsted Plaids for Dresses at 44c yd.
2500 " Light Calico, very best, at 3c yard.
3000 " Apron Gingham at 3c yard.
3500 " Indigo Blue Calico, very best, at 44c yd.
1500 " Henrietta Cashmere, all colors, 36 inches wide, at 16c yd.
5 dozen Ladies' Wrappers at 48c.
5 dozen Ladies' Wrappers at 65c.

Clothing Department.

3 dozen Men's Black Cheviot Suits, price \$8.00—for this sale.....\$3.75
3 dozen Men's Fancy All Wool Suits, price \$11.00—for this sale.....6.98
6 dozen Men's All Wool Pants, all colors, in heavy weight, price \$2.75—for this sale.....1.98
4 dozen Heavy Cottonade Pants, price \$1.00—for this sale......58c
5 dozen Men's fine Outing Flannel Nightgowns, price \$1.50—for this sale......75c
5 dozen Men's Muslin Gowns, fancy bosom and cuffs, for this sale.....40c
25 dozen Men's Outing Flannel Overshirts, full size, at.....25c

Shoe Department.

We just received a new line of Men's, Ladies' and Misses' Shoes, which we will sell for this sale at a Great Bargain.

36 pair Ladies' Dongola Button Shoe, price \$1.75 and \$2.00, for this sale.....\$1.10
36 pairs Boys' Fine Calf Skin Shoe, razor toe, price \$1.50, for this sale.....98c
36 pairs Child's Shoes at.....38c
72 pairs Men's Fine Calf Skin Shoes, razor toe, at.....\$1.18
72 pairs Ladies' Rubbers at.....20c

Cloak Department.

48 Black, Fine Jackets, regular price \$10 and \$12. Your choice for this sale.....\$3.50

Thousands of other articles which we will offer at
A GREAT BARGAIN.

Remember the Place—THE SAVINGS BANK STORE,
corner North Water and Park streets.

YOURS RESPECTFULLY,

SAVINGS BANK STORE.

FIERCEST OF SPIDERS.

It Kills Birds and Small Reptiles of All Kinds.

Peculiar Things Seen by an English Naturalist in the Forests of Guiana—How a Lizard Was Deprived of Its Prey.

Down in the steaming tropical forests of the Guianas, in South America, where the climate during the rainy season resembles a Turkish bath, there abounds what is probably the most wonderful spider in the world. It is the great bird spider, the "Mygalis avicularia," which catches and kills not only birds, but lizards, other small reptiles and even young chickens. The natives who inhabit those gloomy equatorial solitudes are accustomed from the hour of their birth to all sorts of horrible and deadly insects, but none of them—not even the tarantula or centipede—is so dreaded as the terrible sea spider, the tiger of its tribe. It builds its nest in the trees, and there it lies in wait, just as the house spider does for flies, leaping upon its victims like a fierce and savage beast. An English naturalist who recently returned from a long sojourn in the forests of Guiana relates some interesting personal experiences with this dreaded insect.

"In my excursions into the woods," says this gentleman, "I used to pass an old tree, the trunk of which was slightly hollowed. Beneath the overhanging bark above the hollow a family of bats had affixed themselves, six of them, hanging by their toes, noses downward. They always clung in the form of a triangle, three bats in the upper row, then a row of two, a single bat at the bottom.

"One day I missed the lowermost one, but the next day his place had been supplied. The following day two were gone, and when I inquired of my negro guide the reason and manner of his taking off he informed me that probably a bird spider had captured him. At another time I was hunting along the shore for small birds among the sea grapes, the hanging racemes of creamy white flowers attracting birds and insects, owing to the honey which they contained. The first bird I shot there was a black and yellow 'sugar



SPIDER KILLING A BIRD.

enter," so called from its liking for sugar and all sweet things, a frequent visitor to the sugar plantations during the boiling season. It fell, as I fired into a dense cluster of sea grapes; another bird attracted my attention just then, and, first noting the location of the one I had shot, I went in pursuit of the second. I soon returned, but could not find my bird, though I knew he must be somewhere near. As I was peering through the leaves, however, a slight rustling drew my attention to a very comical sight. It was a large lizard, which, with one foot placed upon the bird I had shot, was intently watching me with his diamond-bright eyes. He had stripped off some of the feathers from the dead bird, which he was hastily devouring, having first drawn it some distance from the spot where it had fallen. Suddenly, just as I was turning away, a black, hairy object fell upon the lizard; there was a short sharp struggle, and my predatory friend was still in death. I might easily have killed the spider (for such it was), but I did not."

All Weddings on One Day.

At Pionagastel, in Brittany, all the weddings of the year are celebrated on one day. In February last 34 couples were simultaneously joined together in holy matrimony. The ceremony was very pretty, all the brides and bridegrooms wearing Breton costumes, and walking in procession round the town, followed by their fathers and mothers, their brothers, their sisters, their cousins and their aunts. The wedding breakfast was laid out in detachments, hardly a building in the village being exempt from making room for a portion. There were 2,000 guests distributed among the lofts, barns and kitchens; plates were conspicuous by their absence, and a dish of food was supplied to every four persons. The festivities lasted for a week, and included many curious old Breton customs.

International Mule Car Line.

The only international mule car line in the world is the one which runs across the bridge from El Paso, Tex., to Juarez, Mexico. The solemn Mexican Dogberry whose duty it is to watch for dutiable goods board the boatsails at each trip and search for smuggled wares with as much gravity as if the whole world was breathlessly watching. Recently they pounced upon a lot of lamp chimneys and wicks which were to be used for the car service, and in their zeal to serve the country they delayed the traffic for half a day until they arrived at a proper understanding of the matter.

The Science of Algebra.

The science of algebra is said to have been the invention of Mohammed of Buziana, about 850 A. D. The science was introduced into Spain by the Moors. The first treatise on the subject in any European language is believed to have been that by Luca Paccolli, in 1494.



TO THE SOUTH.

BOLEN & LANNING, Real Estate Dealers, have another of their popular EXCURSIONS TO TEXAS on TUESDAY, MARCH 23, where they are selling as much of their choice cheap lands near Houston and Galveston. These lands are smooth, level prairie, most of them new and rich, and never had a nail in them. We can sell you cheaper and better lands, better terms than any one and can take exchange in on some of them. Write us for circulars. Also do a general exchange business; buy land to exchange for stocks of goods to exchange for lands. In fact can fit you with almost any kind of a trade. Especially notice the citizens on the country across the bayou from Galveston. Write us or call and see us in Millikin bank building, Decatur, Ill. BOLEN & LANNING.

NEWS FROM MR. CREA.

Was Not So Well Sunday—Some Better To-Day.

* Much solicitude is felt in the community for Hon. Hugh Crea, a patient at the Augustus hospital, in Chicago, by his many business and personal friends. He was regarded as resting reasonably well on Saturday, but on Sunday a message came stating that he was not so well. Miss Crea went to Chicago on the train Sunday at noon. This morning a telegram was received by Mrs. Crea that her husband was some better than he was on Sunday. Today at noon Mrs. Crea left for Chicago to be with her husband. The lady would have gone before but by the advice of her physicians she has remained at home. Her health has been bad for several weeks and it has been deemed inadvisable for her to make the journey to Chicago.

CORNELL CELEBRATION.

A Letter from McKinley in Which He Refers to Washington's Farewell Address.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 22.—Washington's birthday was celebrated under the auspices of Cornell University. A letter from McKinley declared that "next to the Declaration of Independence itself Washington's address is the richest heritage that has come down to us from the fathers of the republic."

Pull-Bearers.

The following comrades have been selected to serve as pull bearers at the funeral of the late Mrs. Nathan Gruver which will take place tomorrow at 2 p. m. from 554 South Selgel street: I. N. Martin, M. E. Bingham, Harry Flak, M. Shea, Hiram Johnson and Andrew J. Johns.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay, if not cured. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by E. A. West, the druggist.

REDUCED PRICES FOR 30 DAYS.

Ladies' and Children's Dresses, Cloaks, Wrappers and Capes dyed and dry cleaned. No ripping apart. Lace and chenille and portiers dry cleaned at reduced prices for February, by the leading practical dyers and dry cleaners of Decatur. H. H. Miller & Bro., 145 North Main street.

There is a district four miles square nine miles south of Pekin in which there has not been a religious service of any kind for seventeen years. However, they are now organizing a Sunday school in the district and it is hoped to "take away its reproach" in the near future.

A torpid liver means a bad complexion, bad breath, indigestion and frequent headaches. To avoid such complications take DeWitt's Little Early Bitters, the famous little pills. A. J. Stone & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krohn.

NOTICE.

DECATUR, ILL., Feb. 22, 1897.

To the Stockholders of the Municipal Electric Company, of Decatur, Ill.:

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of said company will be held at the office of said company in Decatur, Illinois, upon the 15th day of March, 1897, at the hour of one o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of authorizing the president and secretary of said company to execute, acknowledge and deliver the notes and mortgages of said company, said mortgages to cover the entire property, property rights, privileges and franchises of said company, and to be in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$30,000, and upon such terms and for such time as shall be deemed expedient by the officers of said company, to execute said notes and mortgages, or as shall be particularly provided for by resolutions adopted at such meeting. H. CULVER, Pres't. [L. S.] Attest: F. H. CULVER, Sec'y.

CHANCERY NOTICE.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ss. MACON COUNTY, ss. In the Circuit Court to the June Term, 1897.

Lewis F. Hall vs. Jane Wiley Hall—Divorce. It appearing by affidavit filed in my office that the above named defendant is a non-resident of the state of Illinois, notice is hereby given to said defendant, in compliance with the provisions of the act in relation to the chancery side thereof, which said suit is still pending, and that summons thereon issued out of said court requiring you the above named defendant, to appear on the first day of the next June term thereof, to be held at the court house in the City of Decatur, on the first Monday of June, 1897.

Now unless you the said Jane Wiley Hall, shall be and appear on the first day of said term of said court to plead, answer or demur to said bill of complaint, the same will be taken as confessed against you, and a decree rendered in favor of the plaintiff thereon. Dated at Decatur this 22nd day of February, A. D. 1897. [Seal] D. L. FOSTER, Clerk. Feb. 22-4w

FOR RENT—Nestly furnished rooms at 33 South Franklin street, within two blocks of street car line. 22-4w

WORKING FOR TRADE....

Yes, that is what we are doing---Giving Exceptional Values in all kinds of Dry Goods Shoes and Cloaks.

PRICES TO REDUCE STOCK

Will be the Draw Card This Week.

Kid Gloves at 98c.

About 25 dozen of Ladies' Kid Gloves, (Tans, Browns, Slaters, Blues, and Reds), that have sold at \$1.50 and \$1.75, on sale at 98c pair.

Dress Goods at 39c.

About 20 pieces of Light and Dark Novelty Dress Goods, that have sold at 50c, 65c and 75c yard—now out at 39c yard.

White Shirts at 48c.

10 dozen Men's Laundered White Shirts, (sizes 14, 15½, 16, 16½, 17), that are slightly soiled, and have sold at \$1.00, and \$1.25, now cut to 48c.
25 dozen Men's fine Unlaundered White Shirts, worth 75c, at 48c.

MEN'S FLANNEL OUTSIDE SHIRTS

worth \$1.00 and \$1.50, now at 50c.

LADIES' FINE SHOES, the \$2.00

kind at \$1.50 pair.

One lot \$1.50 and \$1.75 Ladies' Shoes out at 98c pair.

BOYS' PERCALE WAISTS, the 50c

kind at 25c.

CHILDREN'S TAM O'SHANTER

CAPS at 19c.

WINDOW SHADES, 40c kind 25c; 25c

kind at 15c.

DRESSER SCARFS, 50c and 65c kind

at 39c each.

JACKETS AND CAPES go at

about Half Price this week.

AT JOHNSTON'S... 151 N. Water Street.

WE MUST MOVE

March 1st

Our CLOTHING, Furnishing Goods, Hats, Etc., Etc.

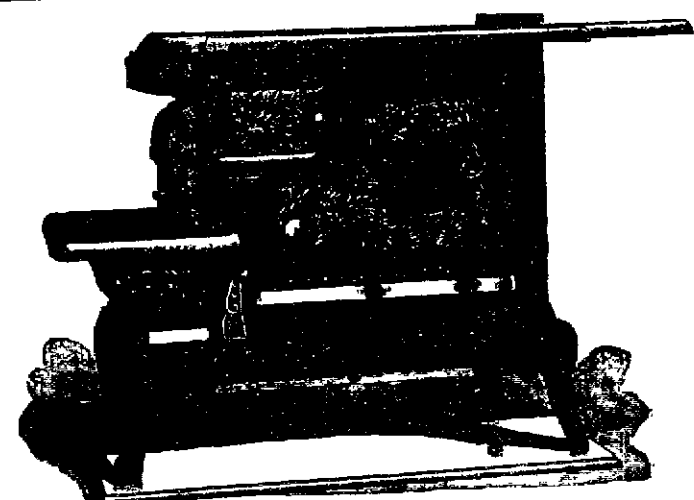
New Store 159 East Main Street.

Great Inducements to purchasers. Cost lost sight of. Will divide the value of the goods with you before moving.

GEO. W. JONES CLOTHING HOUSE,

Now 108 East Prairie Street.

March 1st 159 East Main Street.



OUR \$15.00 COOK STOVE.

1,500 of them in use in Decatur and vicinity and every one of them satisfactory. This stove has all the latest improvements. Fire-lined Oven Door, Oven Door Shelf, Back and Side Shelf, Oven Door Opener, Nickel Towel Rod, Heavy Loose Base—in fact a stove that is as good as many stoves sold for \$5.00 more money. Remember, every stove fully warranted.

Bachman Bros. & Martin Co.

ONE BLOCK EAST OF MILLIKIN BANK.

CORSETS...

Now is the time to buy a Perfect Fitting CORSET...

I CARRY FULL LINE

Warner's, Thompson's Glove-Fitting, R and G, Flexo Girdle, P. D. Jackson Corset Waist.

A dress form Corset in black, white and summer for \$1.00. For a cheap Corset try my 50c.

H. C. Anthony

DECATUR, ILL.



These Two Baskets

are several days apart. To shorten the time and lighten the journey between, is to bless woman-kind who are all looking for the best bridge over; and this is the mission of Santa Claus Soap. It has long been used by thousands of thoughtful women who believe in saving themselves unnecessary labor.

SANTA CLAUS SOAP

is made to wash with, and it washes just right. It foams readily, rinses easily, cleans perfectly. Snowy, sweet and uninjured clothes follow in the train of SANTA CLAUS. We ask for it an introduction next Monday morning. Sold everywhere.

MADE ONLY BY
THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY, Chicago.

GOT IT?

FOUR-C

ANNIHILATES

LA GRIPPE.



GOT A COLD?

Try Phelps' Four-C Cough Remedy.

WE GUARANTEE 4-C TO GIVE ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION IN GRIP, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, CROUP, COUGHS AND COLDS.

For sale by Armstrong Bros., C. F. Shilling and W. H. Hubbard

SALVATION OIL

The Greatest Cure on Earth for Pain. Cures permanently Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Sprains, Cuts, Bruises, Scalds, Burns, Swellings, Backache or any other pain. SALVATION OIL is sold everywhere for 25 cts. Refuse substitutes.

THE MUSICAL MONKEY.

He is Also a Trapeze Performer and a First-Class Fighter.

Albert Anderson, who lives in Harlem, has a monkey named Billy. The monkey has a room 10 by 12 which is fitted with all sorts of acrobatic apparatus likely to be enjoyed by a small but healthy tree climber. In one corner of the room is a bed and in another are two dumbbells, made fast with chains, because the monkey throws things when its temper is ruffled.

The monkey is so fond of music that when Albert Anderson, Jr., plays the harmonica in its hearing, no matter if it be eating or rolling, the monkey stops, and, keeping time to the music, sways back and forth from its hips, its eyes wide open, and its face expressing great joy. Young Albert gave Billy a mouth organ one day, and Billy screamed with delight. The monkey put the instrument to its mouth and blew hard. A discord followed, instead of the tune which the monkey plainly expected, and it thereupon held the harmonica at arm's length to look at it. It blew the instrument again and again, each time looking at it as if to make out what the trouble was. At last Billy threw the harmonica across the room, chattering in anger. Albert played a waltz on his instrument and Billy grew less excited, but would not touch a harmonica again.

A week later the boy got a music box for the monkey. After showing Billy how to turn the crank the boy left the box on the floor. The monkey looked at it, turned the box upside down, shook it, and then, taking hold of the handle, began to turn it slowly. The music came and the monkey began to dance, first on one foot and then on the other, whirling with delight. It is only after the removal of the box that Billy can be made to exercise on the bars and swings enough to keep in health.

Billy does not weigh more than two pounds, but every grain of those pounds is full of grit when it comes to a fight. Sam, the house cat, a big gray brute, scarred in street fights with wandering tramp cats, got into Billy's room one day, and the monkey's lips curled. The cat looked up at the monkey, which was on a trapeze bar, and licked its chops. Billy apparently knew what that meant, and dropped down part way to the floor. The cat jumped, but Billy did the giant swing and the cat missed. Before the cat had got to the floor again Billy was on it, and in two minutes the cat was leaping over bars and swings yowling with pain. Sam never visited Billy again.—N. Y. Sun.

RESEMBLES THE FOX.

The Fennec, a Beautiful Little Animal Found in Africa.

This beautiful little animal, which is peculiar to Africa, being found in Egypt and Nubia, resembles the fox in general form and has the same bushy tail. Its large ears and small head give it a quaint look and its pretty blue eyes are bright and intelligent looking. The fur is generally of a pale fawn color, but sometimes creamy white, while the tail is of the same color, except in the upper base and the end, which parts are decidedly black.

Full-grown, the fennec, or zerda, is about 12 inches long, without the tail, which is two-thirds the length of the body. He is very active, and has a habit of running a ways, then stopping to sit on his haunches, looking very grave. Like the fox, he feeds on various fruits, but is a marvel in that he performed the astonishing feat of climbing up a lofty date palm and there secured the fruit, which hangs in rich



THE AFRICAN FENNEC.

clusters at the top and which he dearly loves. He also feeds on eggs and insects, which are very cleverly snapped up in passing.

The characteristics are so confused and mixed that zoologists have frequently transferred this animal from one part of the animal kingdom to another, but it has been generally considered as belonging to the fox family, or the genus Vulpes. Like the fox, fennecs live in subterranean burrows, which they easily excavate in the sandy soil of their native regions. The fur is considered valuable by native tribes for robes, but the animals being so small, each robe requires a number of skins. During the daytime the fennec generally remains concealed, and is infrequently seen except after dark, when he emerges from his burrow and sets off upon a marauding expedition.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Monkeys Used as Detectives.

The newest service rendered by monkeys to mankind was illustrated in London. The school inspectors noted with suspicion that a great many families reported "no children," and in order to ascertain the real number of children in the district resorted to an ingenious scheme. Two monkeys were gayly dressed, put in a wagon accompanied by a brass band, and were driven through the streets of the district. Crowds of children followed the monkeys, and when the wagon was stopped in a park, the school officers distributed candies to the youngsters while they took their names and addresses. Two hundred stray boys and girls were rounded up by this method.

Illinois Farmers' Institute Meeting. The Wabash railroad will sell excursion tickets to Springfield, Ill., at the rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip, from all stations in Illinois from which regular one way tickets are sold, Feb. 23 to 26 inclusive, good returning not later than Feb. 27.

The late general assembly appreciating the great benefits resulting from the holding of Farmers' Institutes, passed a law creating the Illinois Farmers' Institute for the purpose of developing a greater interest through said organization in the better cultivation of crops, in the care and breeding of the most profitable type of domestic animals, in extending dairy, husbandry, promoting horticulture, directing attention to the importance of farm drainage, stimulating the spirit of improvement in the construction of public roads and discussing the best methods of general farm management.

Up to date farmers and live stock breeders will be greatly benefited by attending the state farmers' institute meeting to be held at Springfield Feb. 23, 24, 25 and 26, 1897.—10-4&w

The Ideal Panacea.

James L. Francis, Alderman, Chicago, says: "I regard Dr. King's New Discovery as an Ideal Panacea for Coughs, Colds and Lung Complaints, having used it in my family for the last five years, to the exclusion of physician's prescriptions or other preparations."

Rev. John Burgess, Keokuk, Iowa, writes: "I have been a Minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for 50 years or more, and have never found anything so beneficial, or that gave me such speedy relief as Dr. King's New Discovery." Try this Ideal Cough Remedy now. At West's drug store.

There is a district four miles square nine miles south of Pekin in which there has not been a religious service of any kind for seventeen years. However, they are now organizing a Sunday school in the district and it is hoped to "take away its reproach" in the near future.

A torpid liver means a bad complexion, bad breath, indigestion and frequent headaches. To avoid such complications take DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

The people of DeLand recently held an election for postmaster, resulting in the choice of D. B. Troxell by five votes over six other candidates.

Constipation in its worst forms, dyspepsia, sick headache, biliousness and derangement of the liver are readily cured by DeWitt's Little Early Risers. These little pills never gripe. Small pill, safe pill, best pill. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

The Kirmass or festival recently held in Peoria by Jewish women netted the handsome sum of \$3100, being perhaps the most successful affair from a financial standpoint ever given in that city.

All the different forms of skin troubles, from chapped hands to eczema and indolent ulcers can be readily cured by DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, the great pile cure. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

The poor house in Peoria is so crowded that cats have to be placed in the halls for the accommodation of the inmates, of whom there are over 200, including sixty-five incurably insane.

Something for burns, scalds, chapped hands and lips. Healing for cuts and sores. Instant relief for piles, stops pain at once. These are the virtues of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

The insane hospital at Kankakee now has a milking machine operated by steam. One man can milk fifty cows in an hour without irritating the animals and with absolute cleanliness.

Chicora, Pa., "Herald": Richard Vinsel reports One Minute Cough Cure the greatest success of medical science. He told us that it cured his whole family of terrible coughs and colds, after all other so-called cures had failed entirely. Mr. Vinsel said it assisted his children through a very bad siege of measles. One Minute Cough Cure makes expectoration very easy and rapid. A. J. Stoner & Son, Armstrong Bros. and N. L. Krone.

Mr. Coogan, county treasurer of Logan county, has bought the White farm of 100 acres south of Lincoln for \$500. Two or three years ago it would have sold for \$100 an acre.

The Wakefield chair factory at Kankakee (formerly the Gibbs chair factory) has been closed and the machinery moved to Chicago. This is the result of the consolidation of two large companies.



SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

THE LAST CALL...

Our sale will come to a close now—we need the room. We have ordered a large Spring Stock this season and we must have room. We don't want to carry any winter goods over for next winter, and if prices will make room we will make room. You can make big interest on your money. We need the money bad enough to make such a big cut. What we have left we will almost give away. Remember the old adage—"Make hay while the sun shines," so come at once and see what we have.

YOURS,

CHEAP CHARLEY,

...The Reliable Clothier...



Brazilian Balm

THE GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN BALM

Cures Coughs, Colds, Croup & Grippe LIKE MAGIC.

RADICALLY CURES CATARRH!

It clears the head of foul mucus; heals the sores and ulcers of the head and throat; sweetens the breath, and perfectly restores the senses of the taste, smell and hearing. Stops headache and dropping into the throat. Also destroys the germs which causes

HAY FEVER, making a perfect cure in a few days. Never fails! No fatal case of LA GRIPPE ever known where Brazilian Balm was faithfully used. It destroys the gripple germ and quickly removes all the after bad effect.

INFALLIBLE IN ASTHMA, CROUP, BRONCHITIS, PLEURISY, PNEUMONIA, DYSPPEPSIA, RHEUMATISM, TYPHOID and SCARLET FEVER, MEASLES, and any disease where there is inflammation, Fever or Congestion. Greatest relief in Consumption ever discovered.

Cures a Fresh Cold in one day. Stops HAY FEVER in 2 minutes. Stops ringing in the head and relieves deafness. As an injection invaluable in female troubles. For outward use heals cuts, sores and burns like magic. Prevents lock-jaw from wounds. QUICK CURE FOR CONSTIPATION and PILES.

Its Healing Power is Almost Miraculous. The Best Family Medicine in Existence.

50 Cent Bottle contains 100 Doses, or Two Weeks Treatment for Catarrh.

\$1.00 BOTTLE EQUALS THREE 50C. BOTTLES.

HOME TESTIMONIALS:

"Brazilian Balm cured me of inveterate catarrh which I had for over 20 years. It is the most wonderful triumph of medical science."—Gen. J. Parker Postles. "In croup, cold and the worst form of gripple we have found Brazilian Balm invaluable."—Jno. W. S. Booth, D. D., Pastor Del. Ave. Bap. Ch. "Mrs. Lore has used the Brazilian Balm and thinks it did her much good."—Hon. Chas. B. Love, Chief Just. of Del. "One bottle of Brazilian Balm cured a friend of mine of hay fever."—Thos. M. Culbert. "I was very deaf for 10 years from catarrh. Brazilian Balm applied warm in my ears every day soon restored my hearing."—Mrs. John Scollen, Chester, Pa. "It is the best thing for dyspepsia I ever saw tried."—Judge Edward Woolter. "I was worn almost to the grave with a racking cough that all the remedies and the doctors failed to relieve. It was cured with one bottle of Brazilian Balm. It shall be my doctor through life."—Mrs. J. Gallowsay, Pittsdown, Pa. "I was fearfully crippled up with rheumatism, could not get my hand to my head. I took ten 50-cent bottles of Brazilian Balm in six months. Am now entirely cured and as nimble as I was at forty."—Anson Burrell, aged 84. A lady in Cincinnati was so afflicted with asthma that during the winter for seventeen years she was unable to sleep lying down, was entirely and permanently cured with Brazilian Balm.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.

B. F. JACKSON & CO., Cleveland, O.

For sale by Armstrong Bros., Druggists.

...LEONARD STORE NOW OPEN...

All Goods at Fire Sale Prices.

COME AND GET WHAT YOU WANT. The fire loss of December 28 has been adjusted and all new and slightly damaged goods—as good as new—will go at astonishingly low figures. Come early. Dry Goods, Groceries—everything, are in THE GREAT BARGAIN SALE.

LEONARD'S Department Store, —333— North Water Street

NEW TELEPHONE, 248.

SIR REDVERS BULLER.

New Chief of the Anglo-Egyptian Army in the Sudan.

Sir Redvers Henry Buller, the army man who is to replace Sir Horatio Herbert Kitchener at the head of the British forces in Egypt, is his predecessor's senior by 11 years. Sir Herbert, who is a "mere youth of 47," as the London cable has it, is an able soldier, but not enough of the old fox to make the home government feel safe in his administration of the military expedition against the Mahdists in the Sudan. If an old soldier is needed in Egypt, why, then, Sir Redvers is the very man for the place, for he has been in the army since the age of 19 years. He was then a commissioned officer of the Thirtieth rifles and won his way upward by dogged determination, hard service and distin-



GEN. SIR REDVERS BULLER.

guished bravery. He won the Victoria cross for his gallant conduct at the retreat of Imbaba during the war in Zululand. On that occasion he rescued a brother officer who was, while returning on foot, hotly pursued by the Zulus. On the same day he conveyed to a place of safety Lieut. Everitt, whose horse had been killed under him. He also saved the life of a trooper whose horse was exhausted and who otherwise had been killed by the savages. The Zulus were within 80 yards of the soldier when Lieut. Buller came up and rescued him. Since those early days Buller has been a prominent figure in the fights of the English against the savages whose territory has been invaded by the British. In the Egyptian war of 1882 he was present at the action of Kassassin, and likewise at Tel-el-Kebir. In the Sudan expedition of 1884 Sir Redvers took a leading part, and he served under Lord Wolseley in the expedition of 1885 into the very territory he now goes to as commander. As a general, it is the opinion of experts that, with the exception of Wolseley and Roberts, Buller stands head and shoulders over any general in the British army.

QUEEREST OF BIRDS.

It Has the Face of a Cat, Tail of a Turkey and Feet of a Dog.

The queerest freak of nature ever seen in that section of the country, and what is said to be the queerest bird ever discovered, flew into a tree on Jesse Brantthoover's farm, six miles from Apollo, Pa., several days ago and has since been in captivity. That it is a bird seems certain, because it has wings which are certainly more than three feet long, but in other respects it is difficult to classify. Its face is that of a cat, its feet resemble those of a dog and its tail is similar to those of the turkey. Its beak and talons are as sharp as those of an eagle, and it has great spurs like a gamecock.

From all the country miles around people have come to look at the monstrosity, but no one has been able to identify it. Farmer Brantthoover was plowing his field when he saw the bird in a tree. He fired at it, and one of its wings being wounded, it fell to the



A FREAK OF NATURE.

ground. Then the farmer attempted to pick it up, but a shot which lasted half an hour ensued, and the sharp beak and talons inflicted wounds the scars of which Brantthoover still carries. Last the farmer's son Ned came to rescue, and together they succeeded in capturing the queer bird, which since been confined in the granary.

Many attempts were made to photograph the thing before the effort was successful. The bird would fly into a cage and jump around, as it always does upon the approach of a human being.

The bird measures 18 inches from top of its head to the tip of its beak. The wings are three feet ten inches long and the legs only two inches long. Grunts and backs like a dog.

Russian Female Criminals.

Russia's penal statistics just published at St. Petersburg show that the dominions of the czar the women criminals outnumber the men by 60 per cent.—just the contrary to the case in other countries. Most of the women criminals are unmarried and the majority come from the lower classes in the cities. The time of life when the Russian woman is exempt from crime is between eighteenth and twentieth years.

Hand on Furniture Workers.

Improved machinery in the manufacture of furniture has displaced from 75 per cent. of the persons formerly employed.

THE CANO PATENT POCKET-BOOK.

Most Serviceable and
Convenient Made.

An Elegant Assortment in all
kinds of Leather, Alligator, Seal,
Calf, Levant, Monkey.

PRICES RANGING FROM
75c TO \$5.00.

The Best Values for the Money
ever shown in Decatur.

Otto E. Curtis & Bro.

Our House has been Established Over 20 Years at
156 EAST MAIN STREET.

FIT YOUR FEET

With a pair of our
New Spring Style Shoes

We have such a large and varied stock of up-to-date Shoes
to select from that we can give you size without any trouble
in any style which you may select.
We will continue the sale on Broken Lots which we have
been advertising until every pair is sold. Remember these
goods are all new, fresh goods, and include such goods as
HANAN & SONS.

F. H. COLE SHOE CO.,

148 East Main St. Sign of the Brass Foot Tracks.

B. F. BOBO, Manager.

NOW OPEN.

Finest Equipped
Photographic Studio
in the State
outside of Chicago.

....SLEETH....

Room 522 Powers' Block.

BRISTLES IN YOUR TEETH *

Are not pleasant, but you'll get
them every time you use a poor
toothbrush.
Get a BRUSH that is built
right—costs a little more, but
gives satisfaction.
Try our 25c Brush.

KING'S DRUG STORE,

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

We are authorized to announce J. C. HANE as
a candidate for Justice of the Peace, subject to
the decision of the Republican township con-
vention.

We are authorized to announce P. B. PROCTOR
as a candidate for Justice of the Peace, subject
to the decision of the Republican township con-
vention.

We are authorized to announce O. W. SMITH
as a candidate for Justice of the Peace, subject
to the decision of the Republican township con-
vention.

We are authorized to announce CHARLES M.
CALDWELL as a candidate for Commissioner of
Highways, subject to the action of the Republi-
can township convention.

We are authorized to announce WILLIAM
BUNDY as a candidate for Commissioner of
Highways, subject to the action of the Republi-
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We are authorized to announce J. T. LLOYD
as a candidate for Constable, subject to the
decision of the Republican township convention.

We are authorized to announce ARTHUR F.
RYAN as a candidate for Town Clerk, subject to
the decision of the Republican township con-
vention.

We are authorized to announce LANDY
H. MARTIN as a candidate for Collector, sub-
ject to the action of the Republican township con-
vention.

LOCAL NEWS.

No circuit court today.

The county offices are closed today.

Dancing tonight at Guards' Armory.

Deaz, Tailor, 117 North Water St.

Drink Cool's 25c combination coffee.

Hot water bottles, all sizes, 75c each, at
West's drug store.—19-dtf

Smoke the Little J., 5-cent cigar, made
by Jacob, Keck.

Irwin's satisfaction tooth powder whitens
and preserves the teeth.

Headache cured in fifteen minutes with
Irwin's harmless headache powders.

Sparrow's fine chocolate for sale at
the Opera House Drug store.

Smoke the Little J., a fine hand made,
Sumatra wrapper—5 cent cigar.

The home minstrel performance will
occur tonight at the opera house.

Go to Henry's bakery for all kinds of
bread, cakes, pies, etc. June 22-dtf

Smoke the famous Leda, a fine 10 cent-
er, made by John Walgand. Feb 22 dtf

Largest and finest stock of face powders
in Decatur at West's drug store, all at out-
prices.—19-dtf

The ladies of the Presbyterian church
will give a dinner and supper next Thurs-
day at the church.

Patronize the home minstrel show at
the Grand tonight. You cannot afford to
miss it. Go early.

Pure gum camphor, prevents moths,
lowest price ever made; 50c a pound.
West's drug store.—19-dtf

Take the Vandalia-Pennsylvania for
Washington, D. C.; reduced rates for
the inauguration.

The police Sunday night arrested a
number of parties for disorderly conduct
—men, women and boys.

Dr. Wheeler will move his office tomor-
row from the Arcade building to room 418
Powers block.

There is no market report today, the
board of trade being closed on account of
Washington's birthday.

The regular meeting of the Ladies' As-
sembly of the Sons of Veterans will be
held at the Grand Army hall on Tuesday
evening, Feb. 23, at 7:30 o'clock.

Next Saturday night the members of
the band at Blue Mound will give a con-
cert. Miss Bernice Trainer of this city
will take part in the exercises.

In the program for the Home minstrel
show tonight the names of W. A. Boettger
and Walter Shade, through error, do not
appear. The names should have been
printed with the other participants in the
performance.

While in Chicago last week Undertaker
Peter Perl bought two of the finest car-
riages he could find in that city. They
are of the laudau pattern and have rubber
tires for the wheels. Wait till you see
them! They will win your admiration
and praise.

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Personals.

—Mat Kirkland went to Chicago yes-
terday.

—Attorney John Lee went to Tuscola
today on business.

—Attorney C. C. Leforgee went to St.
Louis today on legal business.

—Born—To Mr. and Mrs. George R.
Harry, on Feb. 21, a son.

—W. H. Addis is seriously ill at his
home on South Water street.

—Miss Edna Bunn left this morning
for Chicago where she will visit friends.

—Miss Maude Martin, who was slightly
indisposed last week, is able to be out
again.

—T. B. Shoaff and wife of Danville,
are in the city today to attend the home
minstrel.

—Miss Lillian Crea left Sunday noon
for Chicago to visit her father at the Au-
gustine hospital.

—B. Z. Taylor departed on Sunday for
Hot Springs, Ark., where he will remain
for about two weeks.

—J. M. Fisher, who has been in Beth-
any visiting his sister, Mrs. T. M. No-
Guire, returned today.

—Mrs. Lillie Condell of St. Louis, is ill
at the home of her brother, W. W. Scud-
dor in the 1800 block on North Edward
street.

—Ernest Reddick, the little son of C.
M. Reddick, is seriously ill at the family
residence on North Water street. He is
afflicted with scarlet fever.

—W. T. Dillehunt is confined to his
bed at his home on East Bradford
street. He has been seriously ill for
several days.

—Rev. Moore, of Quincy, formerly rec-
tor of St. John's church, is visiting B. F.
Bobo. He comes to share in the general
celebration over the entertainment
in honor of All Angels' Mission.

—Mrs. Hugh Crea left at noon today
for Chicago in response to a telegram stat-
ing that Mr. Crea is but little better.
Owing to her own illness Mrs. Crea has
not been able to leave her home until to-
day.

—Captain John W. Hartley, who has
been in the southern part of the state,
near Centralia, during the past three
months, has returned home in improved
health. He has gained fifteen pounds
and feels considerably stronger.

Church Notes.

Sunday was honor day for the mem-
bers of the Sunday school of the First
Presbyterian church. There was music
and bible reading and G. W. Miller, one
of the state Sunday school workers was
present and awarded certificates to the
pupils who had recited their lessons best
and been absent the least number of times
during the year. The superintendent, A.
H. Mills, made a few remarks.

George W. Miller of Paris, occupied the
pulpit of the First Presbyterian church
Sunday morning and Rev. A. W. Haw-
kins of the C. P. church, preached in the
evening.

Rev. Trueblood of Kearney, Neb.,
preached at the morning and evening ser-
vices at the U. B. church Sunday.

Rev. W. A. Stadler of Chicago, preached
Sunday at the English Lutheran church.

The revival at the Grace Methodist
Episcopal mission will be continued this
week by the pastor, Dr. Gillmore. Last
night at the mission J. W. Crane preached
the sermon, and Henry Lunn gave an ex-
hortation and conducted the after exer-
cises five persons, including a husband
and wife, came forward as seekers, three
of whom were converted. There has been
over seventy conversions. Preaching, to-
night by Pastor Gillmore.

The executive committee of the Macon
county Christian Endeavor Union held a
meeting recently and made arrangements
for the county convention which will be
held in this city on March 25. Provisions
were made for paying the debts of the
union. A committee was appointed to
nominate officers for the next six months.

The members of the Baptist Sunday
school will hold a special song service this
evening at the church.

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